

CLAIMS

1. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine comprising:

5 a particulate filter arranged in the exhaust system, which carry a catalyst for absorbing and reducing NO_x, said catalyst absorbing NO_x when the air-fuel ratio in the surrounding atmosphere thereof is lean and releasing the absorbed NO_x to purify NO_x by reduction when said air-fuel ratio is the stoichiometric or rich;
10 and

a catalytic apparatus for purifying NO_x arranged in the exhaust system upstream said particulate filter, which has an oxidation function.

2. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine according to claim 1, further comprising bypassing means to make possible the exhaust gas bypass said particulate filter downstream said catalytic apparatus.

3. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine according to claim 2, wherein said catalytic apparatus carries said catalyst for absorbing and reducing NO_x, during the recovery process of the SO_x pollution of said catalytic apparatus, said bypassing means makes the exhaust gas bypass said
25 particulate filter.

4. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine according to claim 2, wherein said catalytic apparatus carries said catalyst for absorbing and reducing NO_x, immediately after the
30 finishing of the recovery process of the SO_x pollution of said catalytic apparatus, said bypassing means does not make the exhaust gas bypass said particulate filter and thus the exhaust gas passes through said particulate filter.

35 5. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an internal combustion engine comprising:

a particulate filter arranged in the

exhaust system, which carries an oxidation catalyst; and
a catalytic apparatus for purifying NO_x
arranged in the exhaust system upstream said particulate
filter.

- 5 6. A device for purifying the exhaust gas of an
internal combustion engine according to claim 5, wherein
said particulate filter carries an oxygen absorbing
agent.